THE RaRa RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 64 | October 2011 | NO. 2

October Meeting - Getting To Know Your Neighbors

by Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC

This catchy title serves as a clue to what Jim Sutton, N2OPS, will be sharing at our October meeting. Jim is well known around our area as an expert in the world of VHF-UHF scanning. These are the frequencies that our police, fire, coast guard, utilities, and public safety personnel, among others, use to communicate. Listening in on these frequencies can be exciting, and enlightening.

At the RARA meeting on October 7 "Getting to Know Your Neighbors" will take a look at the history of scanner listening in the Rochester area, the current scene including APCO P25 and a look at the 700 MHz system on the way for Monroe County. Jim will detail each county's current system and where each is heading.

Jim began listening to scanners in 1965, and today Jim writes an article for each issue of *National Communications* on various topics of interest to scanner listeners. For 14 years Jim set up thousands of scanners for scanner listeners, and gathered data about frequencies, unit numbering, and codes which went into *Scanner Radio Data*. This book aided scanner listeners in the Rochester area in programming their scanners and understanding what they were hearing. This book is a big success, with 18 printings!

Jim was first licensed in 1989, and currently Jim leads a youth ham club called The Fishermen's Net KC2RHY, in Mount Morris, NY. Weekly classes are held there and consist of "hamsters" studying for their Technician license. There will be time for questions and answers, and Jim is suggesting that you send him your questions ahead of time. Questions can be sent to him at jim@otrym.org.

See you at the October meeting.

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RARA Meeting

VHF-UHF Scanning

October 7th, 2011 7:30PM

Henrietta Fire Co. #1
3129 East Henrietta Rd. (15A)

The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

This month I have a lot to tell you. First is about the By-Laws change I mentioned at the September meeting. The purpose of these amendments is to synchronize the club calendars. Currently we have three different calendar cycles: A fiscal year (Sept. 1 – Aug. 31), Membership (Nov. 1 – Oct. 31), and Officers terms (May – May). We propose leaving the fiscal year as-is, and correlating the membership term and officer's term to a single calendar beginning October 1st. This would mean moving elections to the September meeting; with newly elected officers taking office on Oct. 1st. It would also allow us to use the new Fall Banquet in September to "kick-off" the New Year. You will find the existing and proposed amendments elsewhere in this issue of the *RAG*. Comments and discussion will be welcomed at the October meeting.

Second is our Hamfest… Four years ago we set out on a mission to revive the Rochester Hamfest from what appeared to be a downward spiral of certain demise. Without looking back, the newly appointed Hamfest Committee started with a clean slate and the sole objective was to provide the most enjoyable Hamfest without losing money for the club. It was obvious by the feedback and comments from the very beginning that we had the blueprint for a winning event. Each of the past three years saw attendance grow, and the event proved financially viable. The inaugural 2009 event was blessed with blue skies and a flyover by none other than the US Navy Blue Angels. In 2010 storms threatened and early morning rains dampened some, but cleared by mid-morning to make for a good day overall for the growing crowds. June 2011 had mixed forecasts but heavy rains came in the mid-morning calling an early end to what was building to a record crowd. Just before the heaviest rains came, the general parking manager reported that we only had room for about 20 more cars!

The bottom line is than in just three years the Hamfest has outgrown the Barnard Carnival grounds; far sooner than we ever expected. As they say: "It's a good problem to have." So… "Here we GROW again!" The Hamfest Production Committee would like to acknowledge the generosity and hospitality of the Barnard Fire Department. Thanks for three great events.
We need more space and we're tired of being at the mercy of the weather, so beginning this June, the Rochester Hamfest will call HOME to the Rochester Institute of Technology campus. Not only will we have ample general parking (paved and striped), we will have large amounts of tailgating space also paved and striped. No stones, dirt, mud, or soggy grass to contend with. But here's the ultimate new feature: **60,000 square feet of pristine, air conditioned, indoor flea market space in the Gordon Field House!** Yes, the Rochester Hamfest is now WEATHERPROOF! Never again will we care if it rains, snows, sleets, or hails; we won't care if it's 30 degrees or 100 – we'll all be comfortable – INDOORS! To emphasize our long-standing relationship with RIT, and the greater breadth of technology, we are now calling the event "The Rochester Hamfest and Technology Expo". The excitement is spreading like wildfire; 24 hours after our official announcement on the website, a new vendor signed up to come to our new venue. Tower Electronics of Green Bay Wisconsin will be returning to the Rochester Hamfest!

73 and prosperous DXing.
Frank
WB2PYD

ROCHESTER HAMFEST and TECHNOLOGY EXPO
June 30th 2012 at RIT

Rochester Hamfest and Technology Expo Features:

- Weatherproof! – 60,000 square feet of air conditioned indoor flea market & vendors
- Tailgating on pavement
- Close to the Thruway with an on-site hotel
- Indoor setup 7-9 am
- Tailgate setup 6:30 am
- Doors open at 9am!

Visit the website (www.RochesterHamfest.com) for up-to-date and late breaking news and photos of the new venue!

Mark your calendars: Saturday June 30th!

FREE Admission for RaRa Members!

NEW LOCATION!
Gordon Field House At RIT

Proposed By-Laws Change

Note: The purpose of these amendments is to synchronize the club calendars. Currently we have three different calendar cycles: A fiscal year (Sept. 1 – Aug. 31), Membership (Nov. 1 – Oct. 31), and Officer's terms (May – May). We propose leaving the fiscal year as-is, and correlating the membership term and officer's term to a single calendar beginning Oct. 1st. This would mean moving elections to the September meeting; with newly elected officers taking office on Oct 1st.

Article I. Membership
Section F. Term
Currently reads: "Membership extends from November 1 of each year to October 31 of the following year."

Proposed change: "Membership extends from October 1 of each year to September 30 of the following year."

Article II. Meetings of Members
Section A. Annual Meeting
Currently reads: "The Annual Meeting will be held in the month of May of each year, the day and time to be set by the Board of Directors and announced at the preceding regular membership meeting. The business transacted at the Annual Meeting shall include (1) election of officers, (2) election of Board of Directors, and (3) determination of dues for the following year."

Proposed change: "The Annual Meeting will be held in the month of September of each year, the day and time to be set by the Board of Directors and announced at the preceding regular membership meeting. The business transacted at the Annual Meeting shall include (1) election of officers, (2) election of Board of Directors, and (3) determination of dues for the following year."

(The changes have been underlined for clarity.)

Silent Keys

Howard C. Clark, K2AN
Sept. 6, 2011

Joseph F. Stephany, N2XS (ex-K2KSJ)
Sept. 10, 2011

It's time to renew!

Memberships expire on October 31st. If you haven't already renewed, now is the time. It's fast and simple: Go online at: http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership-Data.aspx three mouse clicks and you're done! Need help? Try: http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership-FAQ.htm

Don't let your membership expire or you will lose any points you have accrued!

Benefits of Membership:

- **Free** admission to the Rochester Hamfest!
- **Free** admission to our exclusive *Members Only* Auction in November.
- **Free** admission, food, and drink at our summer picnic
- **Free** admission, food, and drink at our winter cabin party. - It's fun for your whole family!
- **Free** amateur radio licensing courses.
- **Free** amateur radio license testing.

The Membership Secretary will be at the October meeting for the "Technologically Challenged."

Rag-Chew

Editor's Thoughts & Comments
By Kevin Carey, WB2QMY
Editor@RochesterHam.org

It was great meeting so many of you at our first Fall Fest in Webster! We hope this event will become an annual tradition at RARA. While it is not intended to be a full-fledged "hamfest," it is a great opportunity to stock up on goodies before the cooler weather arrives and to visit with your friends in a casual setting—all while helping the Shriners' kids. I had the pleasure of meeting several new folks at the meet, and the great weather was a real plus. There is an article elsewhere in this issue on the Fall Fest. Please be sure to forward any comments or suggestions on the event as indicated in the article.

We have a lot of material to present this month. If you gave me something for the issue and don't see it printed here, it's probably because I ran out of space. Any extra material is being held over for next month. In November, I hope to present a project article which should be of particular interest to CW fans. We also have a future article planned on building your own operating desk for the shack. Stay tuned!

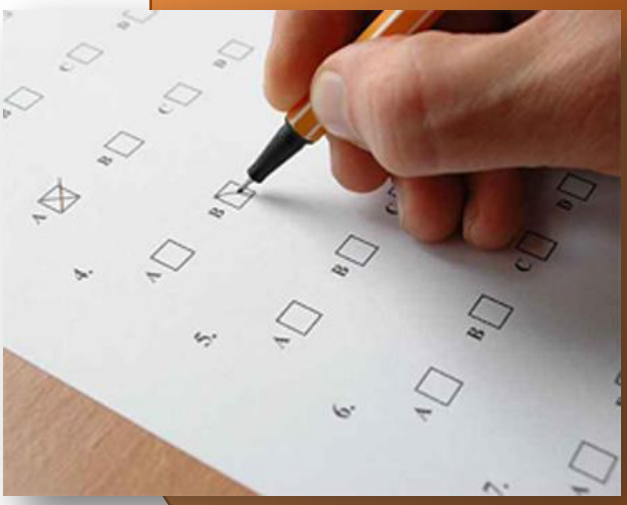
I received a note from a reader last month concerning the reference to "post-Obama dollars" in the September issue. This reader felt that such political commentary would be best left out of the *Rag*. I appreciated the comment, and remain dedicated to keeping our newsletter as politically neutral as possible. I did give the passage a critical eye before press time, but left it in place as I felt it was primarily focused on the *timeframe* of the great economic challenges we see today, rather than any particular judgment of policy. Rest assured that I am sensitive to these issues and will continue to strive for neutrality and editorial quality. Our primary focus will always be on the hobby we all enjoy, regardless of political affiliation! As always, reader input is encouraged, and I can be reached at the e-mail address above.

73, and best DX.

RaRa VE Sessions

By Ken Hall, W2KRH

A new season of VE testing has begun. This year we are using a new General question pool which became effective in July. As in past years we are offering sessions on the **third Saturday of each month September to April**, in Room 9-3139 at RIT. The final session will be at the 2012 Hamfest at RIT on June 30th. Welcome back to the members of the VE team and all of you whether seeking your first license or upgrading your current ticket. Should you have any questions on VE testing please contact me at ken@w2krh.com.



Calendar of Events

Oct 7 RaRa General Meeting – 7:30
Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd

Oct 12 RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110

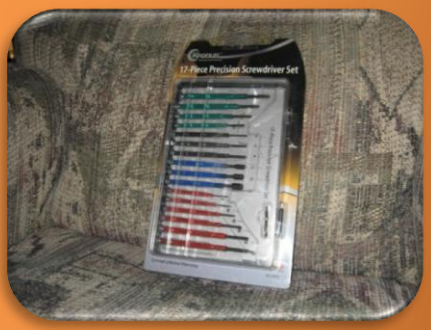
Oct 15 RaRa VE Testing sessions
10:00 AM, RIT
Bldg-9, Room 3139

Oct 31 Memberships expire!
Renew TODAY!

October Prizes!

By Jay Hamill, KC2TCM
Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK

For October's raffle we have a nice 17-piece precision screwdriver set. It includes slotted, Phillips, hex, sockets, and a small T-handle to provide more torque if needed. Next is an Auvio 5-device universal remote control. It has a fully backlit keypad and learning capabilities. Last is the Grundig AN200 antenna loop. This antenna can be directly connected, or placed near your receiver to improve reception. It was generously provided by Universal Radio, Inc. (www.universal-radio.com) Hope to see you at the meeting on Friday, October 7th!



Fall Fest – a BIG Success!

by Len Crellin, KC2PCD

My face is still warm from being out under the sun all day while participating in the first Fall Fest and Tailgate Party. What began as a "what if…" finally became a reality on Saturday, September 10th, 2011 at 8 am. With rain at the Drumlins and half of the Rochester Hamfest, there was an obvious hunger to finally get a great day of ham radio bargain shopping. In five short years, I was surprised that I had collected more gear than I needed and was happy to pass on some equipment to a new home.

The Shriners counted 160 attendees and were very happy to get the donations to add to their Children's Hospital Fund. They were gracious hosts who had enough donuts that even the crowd at a RARA meeting would have been hard pressed to finish them off.

(Fall Fest Continued)

They fired up the grills at 10:30 am and many of us enjoyed a hot, hamburger, Italian sausage (Bill Marinucci's favorite) or pulled pork sandwich with either a soda or legal beverage. If you went away hungry, it was your own doing! I would like to thank the Shriners for all the effort it took to provide us with food perfect for a flea market.

The AWA, RDXA and RVHFG clubs were proudly represented by their members and seemed to be enjoying the whole affair and the chance to socialize and meet new hams who came over to say hello.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers of RARA, I would like to thank all of you who made this first annual event a great kickoff to what we hope will continue for many years to come.

If you would like to share any thoughts about the Fall Fest, feel free to contact me at: kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com and I will pass them on to the BoD and the planning committees of RARA and the Shriners. Hope to see you next year!

RARA Banquet a Hit!

by Len Crellin, KC2PCD

Roast Sirloin of Beef with Au Jus, Virginia Baked Ham, Chicken Marsala, Penne Pasta Marinara, Rice Florentine and all the trimmings—these were some of the items enjoyed by all at our first annual member's banquet on September 23rd at the Burgundy Basin Inn. I know some of you are saying *"Hey Len, this wasn't the first RARA Banquet,"* and you may be correct, only previous banquets (in recent history anyway) were tied directly to our Hamfest. This is the first time it is being celebrated as a time away from the busy Hamfest, and given its own time and place to be *our* special night.

The evening began with a cocktail hour where members could socialize with each other. It didn't take much coaxing from club president Frank Schramm to inform everyone it was time to be seated and enjoy the fresh salads being delivered as he spoke. After that we walked over to a beautiful table full of food and began to fill our plates. It got a little quieter as the serious consumption began! Most were not shy about going back for more.

(Banquet Continued)

The dinner was finished off with a nice vanilla ice cream drizzled with chocolate syrup and topped with whipped cream and chocolate shavings. (If I haven't made you go to the refrigerator by now for a snack, you have tremendous will power).

As we sat back and let our belt buckles out a bit, club MC Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC (Welcome Back 2 Good Home Cooking) took the microphone and began the Awards portion of the evening. Bill was in rare form as he fired off one joke after another and there were laughs and groans throughout the hall. He then proceeded to introduce our three award winners for this year. He noted that all three were being honored not only for this year, but the many years they have provided various services to the club and hams in the region.

The first award was for "Public Service" and was given to Jon Dickason, N2JAC. Jon's willingness to give so much of his time to help out the many organizations that ask for our assistance sets a great example to those who have yet to become involved in public service. My personal favorite is seeing Jon ride around the Barktoberfest on his "Scooter Mobile" equipped with VHF/UHF and APRS abilities. He is truly in his element when he is zooming around. It always gets a reaction from the non-hams at these events and I get to explain just what he is doing and how the equipment works. You never know when an innocent contact will develop into another new ham. Thanks John for all you do for the community as an ambassador of RARA.

Next up was the award for "Club Service" given to Peter Fournia, W2SKY. Peter has been the epitome of what we like to think of when the word "service" is spoken in Ham Radio terms! He has served on the Board of Directors, as VP and President, Education Coordinator, Radio Coach participant, RARA Explorer post leader, HF flea market leader for the last eight years, and most recently headed out on a Red Cross truck to help flood victims in the northeast. I could fill another paragraph of other things he does, but he would be mad at me for boasting so much about him. Let's leave it that we are fortunate to have him with our club and look forward to many more years working together.

(Banquet Continued)

Finally, the award for “Ham of the Year” was presented to Jim Stefano, W2COP. Jim became interested in Ham Radio as a young child and hasn’t missed a Rochester Hamfest since those early days. He has developed a multi-facetted background in amateur radio and has been involved in everything from serving on the board of directors of RARA, Chairing UNYREPCO and keeping “all things repeaters” running smoothly, teaching at RIT’s School of Engineering, and running the student amateur radio club station K2GXT. To me, the ham of the year should be a well rounded, knowledgeable, involved and helpful person who deeply cares about the advancement of our hobby and the people within it. I can think of no better person to have this honor than Jim.

Congratulations to Jon, Peter and Jim. You have set the bar high for future recipients, but we all look forward to who will surface as next year’s winners. To end the ceremony, each of the guys received a nicely framed certificate noting their award and a green RARA jacket with a nice lining for those cool nights to come.

All in all it was a great evening with good food, an excellent facility, outstanding guests, and time to share stories with friends and spouses that you may not have met before. I hope those of you who were unable to attend this year, will circle the date for next year as soon as it is announced and join us in what we hope will become a new tradition for years to come!

Public Service Events

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

We are down to our last two events for the year and they could use some more support. If you can help us out please go to the website to sign up.

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat. & Sun., October 15 & 16, 2011 (Babcock-Hovey)
NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Sun. & Mon., October 30 & 31, 2011

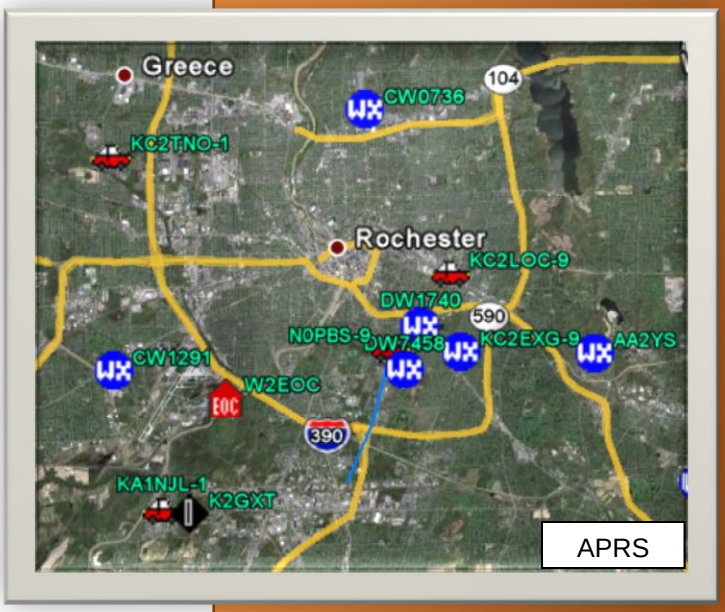
Signing up for an event is very easy. Just go to our website at: http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/public_service.htm . You can sign up for one or multiple events at the same time.

Ham Tech: Google Earth

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

Many people have used Google Earth to get a satellite picture of their house or research a new area they are going to visit. To enhance the experience with Google Earth people have created files that overlay on the Google Earth map. Some of these overlays contain ham radio related information. First, you need Google Earth loaded on your computer. Next you need to download the .kml or .kmz files. When you double-click on the .kml or .kmz file it will open Google Earth and overlay the file information on the map. Save this to My Places and it will save it in Google Earth. Be careful not to check too many of these overlays at the same time or it will take a long time to load Google Earth. Some ham radio files to try are:

APRS: http://aprs.fi/ - On the right side of the screen click on the link "Google Earth KML ?" and download the .kml file.
Echolink: http://www.echolink.org/links.jsp - Just above the listing of All Links click on "Google Earth View" to download the .kmz file.
IRLP: http://www.irlp.net/ - Click on the Google Earth block on the front page to download the .kml file.
Grid Squares: http://bbs.keyhole.com/ubb/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=516050 – In the first posting on the bulletin board is the link "523976-GridSquares.KMZ". Download the .kmz file and enjoy.



RaRa Club LOGO Items

Don't feel left out- get your RaRa logo items today!

http://www.rochesterham.org/logo.htm

RARA Rags of the Past

By Ed Gable, K2MP
Club Historian

20 Years Ago, October, 1991

VP and Program Chairman Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU, reported that the next program had the interesting title of *Robots Today*. The presenter was Mr. Jean Duteau of Brooks Robotics. Lloyd also wrote to announce a special Banquet planned to celebrate RaRa's 60th anniversary. Planned for early December, the event has scheduled many important speakers from RaRa's past and from the ARRL. More details coming up in the next 20 Year Column.

An interesting article by Dana Jonas, WA2WNI, introduced the idea of added purposes for Packet Radio users with a focus on DX Clusters. RaRa President Peter Secrist, WB2SUN, in his column wrote to encourage participation in RaRa's 60th celebration. Peter also commented that of the last three public service events he participated in most all of the volunteers were that same groups of dedicated hams. He encouraged more participation by all RaRa members.

Local DXers were very pleased and most fortunate to have a new DX columnist by the name of Fred Gern, KB2SE. This issue saw Fred announcing exciting new countries of Walvis Bay ZS9, North Korea P5 and Penquin Island ZS1. On-the-air after long absences were Albania ZA, Afghanistan YA and Burma XY. With regret it was announced that Ken Hovey K2CTN and William Tronzo WB2OEV were reported as silent keys. From the Want Ads you could buy a Drake R4A/T4X combination for $400 from Gene, W2LU. A new commercial advertiser was Kurt, K3KH, offering flight instruction and scenic flights.
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40 Years Ago, October, 1971

The October meeting was an interesting look back in time with a program titled *Where the Hams Began* by RaRa's old timer Ducky Dengler, K2LK. RaRa President Richard Koehn, WB2SNA, announced the following committee chairs for the 71/72 RaRa season: Harold Smith WA2KND, Hamfest, Joan Vogt WA2YTK, Membership, Bob Pavlock WA2ECD, Awards, Tom Ball WA2THS, Joe Hood K2YAH and Bob Lauzon WB2NSD, Licensing Class and Pat Hoke W2CYG, Auction.

John Lucas, WA2BEH, in his VHF column, reported that Chuck Oneske, K2YCO, achieved the first USA/VE Tropo QSO on 1296 MHz with VE2HW. New RaRa members were listed as Dave K2SQI (SK) Dave Hallidy WB2ZEA, Ken W2UAD, Fred WB2BQA and Al W2ZUX (SK). From the Want Ads you could buy a Hammarlund HQ-110 receiver for $110, from Bob Roberts WA2QAU. A New commercial advertiser was 73 Magazine of Peterborough, NH.

RaRa Hotline
(585) 210-8910

Member Spotlight: Jim Sutton, N2OPS

by Len Crellin, KC2PCD

Welcome to another edition of Member Spotlight. In this occasional feature we highlight a RARA member who has contributed something unique to the amateur radio hobby. If you have someone you think would be interesting for us to interview, please send me, Len Crellin (kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com), his or her name with a short introduction that we can include in the interview. Any photos or stories we can use will be appreciated too!

Our Ham of the Month for this issue is Jim Sutton, N2OPS. We hope you enjoy learning more about one of your fellow hams.

Noted scannist, Jim Sutton (N2OPS) with his KC2RHY club display

1. What got you interested in ham radio?
I met some of the folks from the Genesee Radio Amateurs club (GRAM) at the Batavia Hamfest when I attended to sell scanners. This started my interest in finding out more about how to become a ham.

2. Favorite activities within the hobby?
I find working the repeaters and communicating around the states and the world catching DX are my favorite things to do in ham radio.

3. How long have you been licensed?
I have been a Technician since 1989. I took the test and passed for the General ticket in 2008.

4. Did you grow up in Rochester, or are you a "transplant"?
I am originally from Toledo, Ohio. I now live in Mount Morris and enjoy the area.

5. What is/was your career? Did it involve radio/technology?
I spent 14 years selling scanners and two-way radios at Christiano Hardware in Leicester.

6. What modes/activities haven't you tried yet, which you would like to?
Someday I would like to check out Packet and keep exploring more HF bands.

7. Other hobbies/activities?
I really enjoy doing digital photography. I am also interested in train watching, TV skip, and keeping in shape while hiking the Finger Lakes Trail system.

8. Family overview:
My girlfriend Debbie Tobin is also a ham. Her call is KC2TAX. I have two daughters. Both are also into ham radio. Erica, KC2REQ, is a student at SUNY Geneseo and Jessica, KC2RER, is a student at Pace University in Manhattan.

9. What repeaters do you frequent?
Groveland repeater 147.030+ 110.9 Hz PL

10. Any other info you'd like to share?
I lead The Fishermen's Net youth ham radio club, KC2RHY, at THE BRIDGE which is an after school program in Mount Morris. Here is the link to learn more about this program. www.kc2rhy.com www.otrym.org. We have weekly Technician classes on Friday from 5:00-7:00 pm. Our downtown youth center has a complete ham station. Funding for the HF rig and teaching materials came through a grant from the ARRL Foundation.

I would like to thank Jim for taking the time to write down his thoughts and share them with all of us in RARA. It is obvious Jim is a caring person who puts others before himself. His life is a great example and model of how ham radio has become a tool to not only share the joy of the hobby but unite family and local youths. Thanks Jim. 73. –KC2PCD

RARA Reflectors

Email reflectors help keep amateur radio members informed of general and specific radio related events in our community. The reflectors are free to use and the general and special interest groups are served by the following Yahoo group lists. Most are low volume, while some have peaks in seasonal usage. All RARA members are invited to sign up as needed for any of these reflectors.

RaRa-General Membership: general RARA announcements, equipment and operating questions.

RochesterSpecialEvents: Announcements of special events stations, operations and contests in the local area.

WNYRadioScouts: Scouting and other youth groups attached to any of area radio organizations.

JOTA: Our local JOTA operations teams, operations, equipment and planning.

Ham-Radio-License-Class: License Course and to-be license course participants.

Visit www.Yahoo.com for information on joining the above groups. Many other yahoo groups, Facebook, and YouTube outlets exist for specialized groups and functions for the ham radio community. If you need help in finding, creating or signing up for them, contact any RARA officer.

The Eight Purposes of RARA

From the Amended RARA Corporate Bylaws, Section 3.5.A:
"The promotion of interest in amateur radio communication and experimentation; The relaying of messages without charge; the furtherance of the public welfare through the use of amateur radio equipment and amateur radio operators; the advancement of the radio art; the fostering and promotion of intercommunication by electronic means for the personal benefit of the members and without pecuniary gain; The fostering of education in the field of electronic communications; The dissemination of knowledge and information by electronic means; And the printing and publishing of documents, books, magazines, newspapers and pamphlets necessary or incidental to any of the above purposes."

RARA ACADEMY #3

Open to all new ham radio operators and anyone thinking about joining the fun. Bring a friend. Door prizes to be given away. ALL FREE

DATE: SATURDAY, October 8, 2011

TIME: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Registration: 8:45 AM)

LOCATION: RIT CAMPUS, JEFFERSON ROAD
BUILDING #9, ROOM #3139 (Ham License Testing Room)

RSVP: Please send your name, call sign if you have one, and email address to Duane Fregoe, k2si@arrl.net . If you cannot make this session but would like info on future sessions please send the same info and note that you cannot make this one. Future notices will go out via email, the web site, and RARA Facebook page.

SCHEDULE:

9:00 AM – 9:50 AM "QRZ.com"

QRZ.com may be the most visited site among ham radio operators. It is the first place you will look to get information on another ham. It is also a good place to create your own web presence. You do not have to be an HTML programmer to create a nice looking page. I will show you how to get started with setting up your own QRZ page. I will be looking for some attendees to write some text about themselves and bring in some ham related pictures. Save it to a USB thumb drive. We will create your page in front of the class. Visit my page and many others for some ideas.
Presenter: Duane Fregoe, K2SI

9:50 AM – 10:00 AM BREAK

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM "Antennas"

As a new amateur entering the ranks one of the first questions is "what kind of antenna do I need?" That always begs a follow up question, "What do you want to do with it?" One type of antenna is good for local contacts while quite a different type would be used for DX. Then, too, all so often it is where and how much room you have to erect your antenna that becomes a priority. It's all very confusing for the newbie. Fifty year veteran Ed Gable, K2MP, has a way of simplifying the mystery and will do so with lots of images and discussion. He promises the use of only one formula!
Presenter: Ed Gable, K2MP

10:50 AM – 11:00 AM BREAK

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM "Foxhunting"

Jon will explain the various equipment used in foxhunting and show you how easy it is to get started. He will also show some basic tips and tricks that can make you a foxhunter instantly. Bring your HT and antenna of choice (the stock antenna will work) for a hands-on entertaining session. A transmitter will be hidden on the RIT campus and it will be up to the class to find it. No animals will be harmed in this class.
Presenter: Jon Dickason, N2JAC

11:50 AM – 12:00 PM WRAP-UP

This event is being hosted on behalf of K2GXT, the RIT Amateur Radio Club.
This FREE event is sponsored by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association.

Aviation Scanning

by Jim Sutton, N2OPS

Aircraft radio is about the most basic form of communications to be found. While nearly the entire spectrum has gone through radical changes in modulation for security, more efficient spectrum use, and data transmission, aircraft radio has remained AM modulation. This allows a weak distress signal to be heard where with FM the weaker signal would have much less chance of being heard.

Most scanners include the 108-137 MHz commercial aircraft band, but few include the 225-380 MHz military aircraft band. A few inexpensive scanners omit aircraft coverage completely because it requires incorporating AM reception.

Because of the line-of-sight characteristics of aviation frequencies, listeners will hear aircraft in the air at greater distances than those of base stations. Enroute stations often transmit from more than one site, which increases the chances of hearing the base half of the conversation.

The unofficial air-to-air 123.450 MHz is a fun “party line” chat frequency to monitor.

Commercial VHF Aircraft Band 108-137 MHz

VOR Navigation
108.200 Geneseo VOR
110.000 Rochester VOR

Continuous Weather
118.325 Dansville Weather
118.375 Olean Weather
118.475 Hornell Weather
118.675 Canandaigua Weather
119,275 Wellsville Weather
121.175 Penn Yan Weather
124.825 Rochester Weather
127.525 Batavia Weather

Greater Rochester International Airport
118.300 Rochester Tower
119.550 Rochester App/Dep West
118.800 Rochester Clearance
121.700 Rochester Ground
122.950 Rochester Unicom
123.700 Rochester App/Dep East

Worldwide
121.500 Air Emergency
123.450 Air to Air

Web Tips

Reader Contributions
(Feel free to send your web tips to Editor@RochesterHam.org)

Need Microphone Wiring Info for your ham rig? Check out: http://www.qsl.net/g4wpw/date.html

All issues of the famed *GE Ham News* are now online and downloadable in PDF at: http://n4trb.com/AmateurRadio/GE_HamNews/ge_ham_news.htm

Local Airports
122.700 Batavia Airport
Brockport Airport
Hornell Airport
122.800 Perry/Warsaw Airport
LeRoy Airport
Canandaigua Airport
Olean Airport
Ovid Airport
Finger Lakes/Seneca Falls
Williamson/Sodus Airport
122.850 Geneseo Airport
122.900 Geneseo Airport
Honeoye Falls Airport
North Rose Airport
Spencerport Airport
123.000 Dansville Airport
Albion Airport
Arcade Airport
Penn Yan Airport
123.050 Geneseo Air Show

Enroute Wayland Remote Site

124.325 Low Altitude	Bradford	Sector 73
125.875 Low Altitude	Crosby	Sector 72 (vicinity of Wellsville)
127.475 Low Altitude	Rochester	Sector 31
128.025 High Altitude	Geneseo	Sector 37

Enroute Holland Remote Site:

118.625 High Altitude	Dansville	Sector 36
119.375 Super Altitude	Steuben	Sector 39
120.625 Super Altitude	Niagara	Sector 38
125.200 Low Altitude	Buffalo	Sector 33

Low Sectors are surface to 23,000 feet. High Sectors are 24,000 to 33,000 feet. Super High is 35,000 feet and higher

Military UHF Aircraft Band 225-380 MHz

Greater Rochester International Airport
254.300 Rochester Tower
269.600 Rochester App/Dep East
322.300 Rochester App/Dep West
387.000 Rochester Clearance

Worldwide
243.0000 Emergency

Enroute Wayland Remote Site

323.250 High Altitude	Geneseo	Sector 37
338.350 Low Altitude	Crosby	Sector 72 (vicinity of Wellsville)
346.350 Low Altitude	Rochester	Sector 31
353.850 Low Altitude	Bradford	Sector 73

Enroute Holland Remote Site

235.975 Super Altitude	Steuben	Sector 39
263.100 Low Altitude	Buffalo	Sector 33
306.900 High Altitude	Dansville	Sector 36
316.050 Super Altitude	Niagara	Sector 38

Low Sectors are surface to 23,000 feet. High Sectors are 24,000 to 33,000 feet. Super High is 35,000 feet and higher

Public Safety Land Mobile

155.7150	DPL155	GRIA Fire Dispatch
460.2750	NAC8D1 P25	GRIA Sheriff

Links for Learning More…

Aircraft Terms
http://www.studentflyingclub.com/air-terms.php

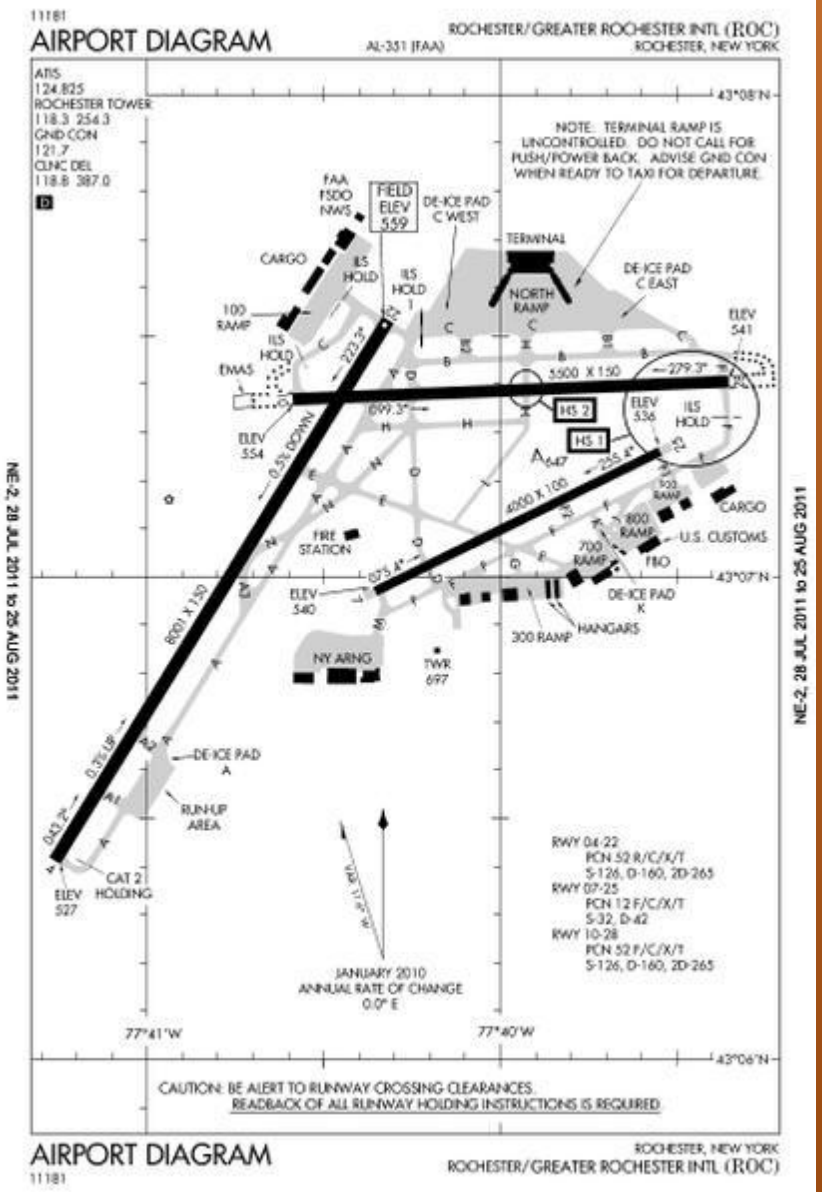
Airport or Aircraft Frequency Lookup
http://airnav.com/

KROC Information
http://www.airnav.com/airport/KROC

Radio Reference GRIA Frequencies
http://www.radioreference.com/apps/db/?aid=4572

I'm looking forward to presenting "Getting to Know Your Neighbors" at the October 7th RARA meeting. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Until next time, 73 to thee.



"The RARA Rag does not endorse political candidates. We do present background information from prospective candidates when this information is provided to the newsletter. We encourage all readers to do their own research and vote according to their own interests."

--Kevin

Phil Theis, K3TUF
Candidate for Atlantic Division Director

Hello members of RARA, my name is Phil Theis, K3TUF, and I'm running for the Atlantic Division Director position. Directors serve on the ARRL's Board of Directors, without compensation, and are responsible for financial and administrative policy decisions in the day-to-day and long range operations of the League. They serve for a three-year term and are voted upon by the members in their geographic division. The Atlantic director represents 13,000 members in the division.

Growing up in the Philadelphia (EPA) area I was licensed in 1962 as KN3TUF and served in numerous positions along the way. You may wish to check my website (k3tuf.com) for all the extremely interesting details of my life!

My wish for this hobby is to keep it exciting and every move I make as a director would take all of the many interests we have into account. We are a diverse bunch of hobbyists and that's what makes it so much fun.
I want to have all of the members in the Atlantic division involved in the decision processes and would publish the agenda prior to board meetings for your feedback.

In previous balloting the majority of ballots sent to members ended up in the trash; I'd like to see a good turnout in this election process. If you're an ARRL member, please look for your ballot in the coming days and exercise your right to choose your representative at the Board of Directors, it's your choice.

Monroe County ARES / RACES News

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. All ARES/RACES members and non-member Amateur Radio Operators are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, October 27, 2011, at 7:00 PM.** Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. East.)

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 9:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

As always, stay in touch with Monroe County ARES/RACES --- www.monroecountyemcomm.org

RDXA News

by Mark Hazel, K2MTH

For our October 18th meeting, the Rochester DX Association will tour the Antique Wireless Museum in Bloomfield. We will *not* be meeting at our usual location for this month (the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center). The group will first convene for dinner at Cheap Charlie's restaurant, 8 Elm St., Bloomfield at 6:00 PM, followed by a brief meeting (6:45-7 PM). We will then proceed a short distance to the AWA museum at # 2 South Avenue. For more on the AWA, please visit www.antiquewireless.org. Hope to see you there!

RRRA News

by Brad Allen, KB2CHY

RRRA had a great turnout for September's meeting. Let's do it again for October 21, 2011 at 8:00PM at the Basement meeting room of the Pittsford Town Hall. We will have a short meeting and our Tune-Up Clinic this month instead of November. We invite all hams to become a part of RRRA and help support the operation of our 146.88 repeater system.

The month of November should be a hit. November 18 at 8:00PM we will welcome Nick Francesco to our meeting to talk about the latest and greatest in electronic goodies as well as a reminder on how to keep that computer safe as well as what threats may be out there. This is an open forum meeting with Nick. He enjoys the fact that he can be technical and not lose anyone in the process. It's always fun to have him join us.

December is our dinner night out at MacGregor's restaurant on Jefferson Rd. near RIT. We are working on the date to be either the 9th or 16th. We are going to firm this up. This is a pay your own way event, the food is good and since it is FAMILY night, we keep radio talk to a minimum. Please join us. This is always a fun event. We will probably start it at 6:00PM for happy hour and sit down and order by 7:00PM. This will be determined. Website http://www.rrra.us

2011 NY QSO Party – Saturday, October 15

by Rick Mintz W1TY/W2RTY

The Rochester DX Association is again sponsoring the NY QSO Party this year.

This is the third year of the NYQP after a 25+ year hiatus. The 2011 NYQP kicks off on October 15 at 10:00 AM local time for twelve hours. Here is your chance to be the "chased" in a contest. Whether you are a serious or casual contester, or looking towards adding to your County Awards total, the NYQP has something for you. All modes including SSB, CW and RTTY/Digital will be activated. There are certificates and over 30 plaques sponsored for participants. Last year we experimented with a **"Rookie Operator Award"** which was very popular. For the 2011 NYQP, those licensed from January 2008 are eligible. This gives newer operators a chance to compete against those that don't have years of experience, antenna farms and high power.

We are always looking for mobile stations to travel through counties. Each county change gives you the opportunity to work that station again as a new multiplier and on up to three modes. Mobiles can post their travels beforehand on the NYQP web site so others will know where to look for them. Mobiles are the backbone of any QSO Party and really will add to your county totals. A list of the rarest NY counties to help plan your route is also on the NYQP web site (see below). Take a friend and make a day of it!

Being a stateside contest, signals should be strong. Last year all 62 NY counties were active. No matter what mode(s) you choose and from kilowatts to milliwatts, the NYQP is designed for fun. Contest logging software is online along with a tutorial for N1MM Logger.

Full information on Rules, County Maps, Logging Software, much more is available at: **www.NYQP.org**. Be sure to check out the "Frequently Asked Questions" section. See you the third Saturday in October. **CQ NYQP!!!**

Visit the RARA Website!

Did you know that your club's website at www.rochesterham.org offers these features and more?…

- ✓ Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- ✓ Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- ✓ Rochester Hamfest information!
- ✓ Online membership & renewal
- ✓ Public service info & sign-up
- ✓ VE testing info
- ✓ Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- ✓ Officer contact info
- ✓ List of past presidents (how many do you remember?)
- ✓ Order RARA logo products (hats, shirts, mugs)
- ✓ Useful Internet links
- ✓ Ham Radio 101—tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings

RARA Classifieds

For Sale

Amateur satellite radio station for sale.
The following equipment was used for one year only. $950. Will *not* separate items. Located in Penfield, NY area.

- Yaesu FT735R transceiver
- Yaesu G-5400B AzEl Rotor
- Kantronics KPC 9612 modem
- KLM 435-18C antenna
- KLM 2M-14C antenna
- Kiron SatTrak IV
- Three rolls coax cable with connectors (about 35 ft. each)
- One roll of cable for rotor, about 35 feet.

Includes manuals for all gear and disk for Kantronics unit. Contact Doug Stockman, N2ZYE via e-mail at dstockman@pol.net.

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSN., INC.
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..... Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK
Club Historian ..... Ed Gable, K2MP
Club Station Trustee ..... Jim DiTucci, N2IXD
Education Coordinator ..... Sue Waterstraat, KC2SUE
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RaRa RAG Layout Editor ..... Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Refreshments Coordinator ..... Tom Austin, KA2GXX
Webmaster ..... Frank Schramm, WB2PYD

RaRa meets on the first Friday of each month from September through May. Come join us at:

Henrietta Fire Company No.1
3129 East Henrietta Rd.
Henrietta, NY 14467

Get Directions

Rochester Area Radio Club Contacts

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November Rag Deadline
October 17, 2011